

First Baptist Church

grace for all

The Messenger

FEBRUARY 2020 - www.clintonfbc.net

“The purpose of First Baptist Church is to love God and to share His love with this community and the world.”



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First Baptist
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share His love*



Update to Winter Weather Policies

The Winter Weather Policies are as follows:

- “If schools are closed, our offices are closed”
- “If school is cancelled or dismissed early due to bad weather our evening activities will be cancelled.”

If in doubt, please phone ahead if you need to stop by FBC during up-coming winter weather

563-242-0811. Also “like” us on Facebook or checkout our website for weather related cancellation notices .



- Saturday, February 8th
Baby Shower - Courtney Bengtson
1-3 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 12th
SONShine Kids - Valentine Event
5:30 p.m. @ Eagle Point Care Center
- Friday, February 14th
Valentine's Day

Friday, February 14th
3 F's at Candlelight
Special Outing - 3:30 p.m.
- Monday, February 17th
President's Day
- Saturday, February 15th & 29th
CCW Class
9:00 - 11 a.m.
- Sunday, February 23rd
Messenger & Calendar Deadline

Keep updated on our web site (ww.clintonfbc.net) and Facebook page. Feel free to call the church with

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

MESSENGER

PASTOR'S ARTICLES

FEBRUARY 2020

"From Your Pastor's Heart to Yours"

February is a month typically associated with "love" in our culture (Valentine's Day). I would suggest that as followers of Christ, every month, week, and, day of our lives is given to us so that we can radiate love, the real and true love of Christ. Now unlike the cultural variety, Biblical love is both a choice and a commitment and not just an emotional "high". Granted we can experience some great height of love, but true also, sometimes, will usher us into the depths. We are, after all, broken people seeking to love other broken people.

Now, I don't have time in this small space to consider all the nuances of Biblical love, but if we mean to love in a manner worthy of the title Christian then we need to ponder and apply the words of the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, *"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸ Love never fails."*

None of us will ever do this perfectly in this life, but here is the goal to which we press every day – and not just on February 14. We seek to love as we have been loved (John 13:34). So may we seek to bear true witness to our faith in the days ahead (John 13:35)!

Blessings! - Pastor Ron

"Pastors' Texts for February"

During the month of February, we will conclude our series entitled, "Kingdom Character"! So that you can consider the texts ahead of each message and do some study on your own, we want to share the texts and titles for the month with you. Our prayer is that this series will prove helpful to you in your personal walk with Christ.

- 02/02 Matthew 5:1-10 "KINGDOM CHARACTER: The Merciful"
- 02/09 Matthew 5:1-10 "KINGDOM CHARACTER: The Pure in Heart"
- 02/16 Matthew 5:1-10 "KINGDOM CHARACTER: The Peacemakers"
- 02/23 Matthew 5:1-10 "KINGDO CHARACTER: Those Who are Persecuted..."

"Stewardship Insights: We Must Choose to Love God"

(A monthly compendium of Biblical wisdom relating to faith, finances and our roles as stewards). This month from: Pastor Rick Warren, *Daily Hope...*

"That you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." (Deuteronomy 30:20 NIV)

Today we've bought into this myth that love is uncontrollable, that it's something that just happens to us; it's not something we control. In fact, even the language we use implies the uncontrollability of love. We say, "I fell in love," as if love is some kind of a ditch. It's like I'm walking along one day and — bam! — I fell in love. I couldn't help myself.

But I have to tell you the truth: That's not love. Love doesn't just happen to you. Love is a choice, and it represents a commitment.

There's no doubt about it: Attraction is uncontrollable, and arousal is uncontrollable. But attraction and arousal are not love. They can lead to love, but they are not love. Love is a choice.

You must choose to love God; he won't force you to love him (Deuteronomy 30:20). You can thumb your nose at God and go a totally different way. You can destroy your life if you choose to do that. God still won't force you to love him, because he knows love can't be forced.

This same principle is true about your relationships: You can choose to love others, but God won't force you to love anyone.

Talk About It

- *How is love received differently when it's understood that it is a choice?*
- What is the difference between love that is from God and love that is based on human understanding?*

"Wisdom from the Web: Living In Christ!"

(This month from the Graced Again newsletter)

"The heart of the Christian message is that the Christ who exhibited in Himself True and Full humanness according to the Creator's intention, and who diagnosed the spiritual deformity that sin brings, and the personal disasters to which it leads, more trenchantly than was ever done before or since, died sacrificially to redeem us from sin; rose triumphantly from death; and now lives to forgive and remake us, and turns us by His power from the travesties of humanity that we really are into authentic human beings who bear His moral image...He deprograms us from the game plans of our former ungodly self-centeredness, teaching us to look at everything through His eyes and literally to live a new life."

(A passage from J.I. Packer in *A Christian View of Man*)

Youth Group

-Youth Group 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Our Strength

Psalm 59:16 (HCSB)

¹⁶ But I will sing of Your strength and will joyfully proclaim Your faithful love in the morning. For You have been a stronghold for me, a refuge in my day of trouble.

What a thought for us, during our days of trouble, when we struggle so much, to know that God is here for us, He is our strength in our weakness, He is our fortress. It is such a reason for us to rejoice my friends, though I know we all must face some hard times, God is our stronghold, He is the place for us to run to, and wants you to run to Him. I haven't always run to Him in my times of trouble though. Maybe you're like me, and in times of trouble you've ran in other directions. I know I have, but I've found that even when I've ran in the wrong direction, my path is always lead back to Him. Generally, when I look elsewhere and go in different directions it makes things messier, but when I run to God first, the path is always much smoother. God is our refuge, we can run to Him every time and no matter what, so run to Him, and rejoice!

-In His Grip- Pastor Jerry

SONShine Kids

Messenger Article - February 2020

Burr! Winter has finally come. Just a reminder for future Children's activities here at FBC, when Clinton Schools are cancelled, so are our Children's activities. We value your safety.

The SONShine Kids have started off the year recognizing all the holidays the year has to offer. There is something to celebrate every day of the year! Which shows us all the things we can be grateful for in our lives. Normally, we can tie the Holiday into our weekly lessons. But, others are just for fun.

I love this group of Children! They have taken on the responsibility of replenishing items in the pews, to gain ownership in FBC. They think for themselves and have come up with some pretty amazing plans to really be a part of the Church. I approached the congregation with their request and God already had someone in mind. Amy Mane-mann, with a joyous heart, has accepted to lead a Children's Choir. Details of who, what, when and where will be sorted out and soon we will hear the angelic voices of these little ones in our sanctuary. Thank you so much Amy for making their plans come true!

Valentine's Day is fast approaching. We have partnered with Eagle Point Care Facility and the SONShine Kids will helping the residents in making Valentine Bracelets. Watch the Sunday Bulletin or SONShine News for details.

February Spotlight

Throughout the year we will be learning more about the volunteers behind the scenes. We don't always recognize and show our appreciation of all our volunteers. And why not? A lot of the time, we don't really know who they are. So, let me introduce:

February's focus is Chelsea Gluesing. Chelsea is the daughter of Barb Gluesing and Brent Gluesing, sister to Ashlyn, Skyla and Crystal Gluesing. She is also the Granddaughter of Ann and Ron Watt. Born and raised in Clinton, she has been a presence at FBC most of her life. Starting with Camp Glory (SONShine Kids), which her mother lead, to Youth Group and most recently serving in the Nursery on Sundays.

Chelsea is currently enrolled at Clinton Community College with a major in English and minor in Creative Writing. She will graduate this year with an Associates of Fine Arts and has plans to attend the University of Northern Iowa in the fall. Her hobbies of reading, writing and drawing will equip her in her career goals. Ultimately, Chelsea would like to be a published writer and illustrator of fantasy fiction books, in which she already has plans for a ten book series.

Working at the YWCA as a Babysitter for the members as they attend their Y activities, fulfills her hearts desires in working with children. No wonder she has chosen to serve the Lord in the Nursery. Our members can rest easy knowing their precious one are loved and nurtured by such an upstanding young woman.

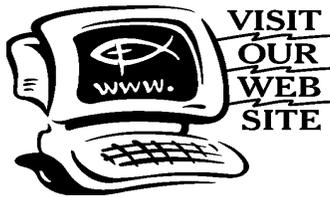
Chelsea has battled depression in her life and is not ashamed of talking about it to raise awareness. She encourages others to Speak Out.

Living to 104 years of age is Chelsea's life goal. She would then be a part of 3 centuries. Good luck, Chelsea and God willing. Thank you for your service to FBC.

-Director of Children's Ministries
Connie Schmitz

3 F's ANNOUNCEMENT: We will be having a get together on Friday, February 14th 2020 at 3:30 p.m. to remember Lavern Foster and other. Everyone is welcome to join us.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Nancy Rose so that reservations can be made. This is an additional outing, the 3 F's will also meet as planned on



www.clintonfbc.net

Missed CHURCH last week
don't forget you can listen to the
sermon on **PODCAST!!**

www.clintonfbc.net



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Birthdays

- 2- Cheryl Edwards
- 3- Rhonda Boothby
Linda Kustes
- 4- Crystal Gluesing
- 5- Paul Adams
Mike Brown
- 6- Joshua Meyer
Serena Williams
- 8- Crystal Gulley
Gabe Marcum
- 9- Bob Brashaw
Corey Weets
- 10- Kathy Byers

- 13- Michael Alberts
Doug Murphy
- 17- Marissa Green
- 18- Blake Brown
Lori Sindt
- 20- Nate Danzinger
Garry Land
- 21- Jesse Lawson
- 23- Julie Bray
Bill Ellsworth
Laurie Mohr
- 27- Ben Huizenga
- 28- Kim Heister

Anniversaries

- 5- Jon & Kelly
Griffis
- 7- Corey & Tera
Weets
- 15- Gary & Patricia
Haring

CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2020

Please note that all calendar information is *subject to change*.
Feel free to contact us at 563-242-0811 to confirm specific event details.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:15 a.m. Praise Team Practice 10:00 a.m. Staffed Nursery Available 10:15 a.m. Worship Service & Communion Children's Church	3 10:00 a.m. Altered Life Outreach	4	5 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 4:30 p.m. All Church Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 6-7 p.m. SONSHINE Kids 6-7 p.m. MS & HS Youth 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	6 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Jenny's Diner	7	8 Baby Shower for Courtney Bengtson 1-3 p.m. (church unavailable)
9 9:15 a.m. Praise Team Practice 10:00 a.m. Staffed Nursery Available 10:15 a.m. Worship Service & Communion Children's Church	10 10:00 a.m. Breakfast with Pastors	11 7:00 p.m. Devotion & Prayer with Boards, Board Meetings	12 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. SONSHINE Kids Valentines Party at Eagle Point Care Center 6-7 p.m. MS & HS Youth 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	13	14 3:30 p.m. 3 F's at Candlelight- Special Outing	15 9-11 a.m. CCW Class
16 9:15 a.m. Praise Team Practice 10:00 a.m. Staffed Nursery Available 10:15 a.m. Worship Service & Communion Children's Church 1-3 p.m. Material Girls Quilt	17	18 7:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting	19 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 6-7 p.m. SONSHINE Kids 6-7 p.m. MS & HS Youth 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	20	21 8:00 a.m. Men's Task Force 10:00 a.m. Brown Bag Prep 3:30p.m. 3 F's at Candlelight	22 10:00 a.m. Brown Bag Distribution
23 9:15 a.m. Praise Team Practice 10:00 a.m. Staffed Nursery Available 10:15 a.m. Worship Service & Communion Children's Church Annual Meeting Messenger & Calendar deadline	24	25	26 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. M & M's 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 6-7 p.m. SONSHINE Kids 6-7 p.m. MS & HS Youth 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	27	28	29 9-11 a.m. CCW Class

See also www.clintonfbc.net & find us on Facebook

First Baptist Church

grace for all

First Baptist Church
2020 N. Third Street
Clinton, IA 52732



February 2019

A decorative graphic with a pink and purple background. It features several hearts of various sizes and colors, and three wooden crosses. The text is centered in the upper half of the graphic.

Jesus Is My Valentine

Jesus is my Valentine;
I talk to Him each day.
He never, never leaves me;
and always listens when I pray.
Yes He is my Valentine;
there is no love like His.
He is the heart of all that is;
for Him I breathe and live.
He's a Valentine that never lies;
never hurts or breaks.
He always has forgiven me;
for all my past mistakes.
If you only knew my Valentine;
You would love Him too.
For His love is always perfect;
His love is always true.
So if your heart is longing;
for a love that never ends.
for someone that is faithful;
you know you can depend.
call upon my Valentine;
He'll wash away your sin.
He will be your Valentine;
and your dearest, dearest friend.

by: Susan Y Nikitenko
December 2008

Background4Christian.com

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Rev. Ronald D. Lott, Senior Pastor

E-Mail: ron@clintonfbc.net

Jerry Danzinger, Associate Pastor

E-mail: jerry@clintonfbc.net

Connie Schmitz, Director of Children's Ministry

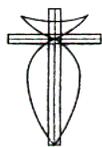
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VISIT US ONLINE AT: www.clintonfbc.net

Check out our web site & find us on Facebook!

The purpose of First Baptist Church is to love God and to share His love with this community and the world."

Join Us For Worship!

Sunday Mornings...

9:15 a.m.

Praise Team Practice

10:00 a.m.

Staffed Nursery Available

10:15 a.m.

Worship Service & Children's
Church for K-3rd Grades

**If your contact information is
changing, please let us know.**

Call (563) 242-0811 or email
office@clintonfbc.net

so that we can keep our records up-to-date.

Thank you.